

# CROSSSECTION



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## DON'T FORGET TO WINTERIZE YOUR RAIN BARREL!

Drain as much water out of the barrel as possible and leave the spigot open. Disconnect the hose from the downspout diverter, and cap the diverter to restore flow to the lower part of the downspout.

## FARMAFARE GROWS IN ITS SECOND YEAR

Last year we transformed our annual meeting into "FARMAFARE", a celebration of local foods. The dinner's second year drew an even larger crowd of attendees and chefs.

In all, 185 attendees enjoyed the local fare provided by 11 local eateries. The chefs were provided with ingredients from across the county and region. The evening was topped off with a presentation by Doug Katz, owner and executive chef at fire food and drink at Shaker Square, Katz Club Diner and chef/partner of Provenance Cafe at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Katz' presentation used his exemplary establishments to show how local food is not only good for your palate but also for business.



*Ferrante Winery was one of 8 local wineries and breweries pouring their finest at FARMAFARE.*

*Picture Courtesy of Serendipity Photography By Kristine Hospodar*

We would like to thank Richard Baker for his 13 years of service on the Lake SWCD Board of Supervisors.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE AN E-NEWSLETTER?

In addition to print copies, Lake SWCD will also be offering our newsletter in full color via email and on our website, <http://www.lakecountyohio.gov/soil>. If you would like to be added to our digital mailing list send your email contact to [soil@lakecountyohio.gov](mailto:soil@lakecountyohio.gov).

## ONE NEW BOARD MEMBER ELECTED

The night also included an election for our board of supervisors. Lake County residents were invited to vote for one seat on the Lake SWCD Board of Supervisors. Dick Kennelly won the election for board member. Dick was born in Lake County, and attended the Willoughby/Eastlake School System. He earned a B.S. in Business Administration from Bowling Green State University and works in Information Technology. Dick has been a VIP guide with The Holden Arboretum for over 15 years, contributing member of Burroughs Nature Club, Secretary of the Western Reserve Resource Conservation and Development Council, and is an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist. Dick will begin his three-year term on January 1, 2014.



## FALL POND MAINTENANCE

NICK AGINS, RESOURCE PROTECTION TECHNICIAN

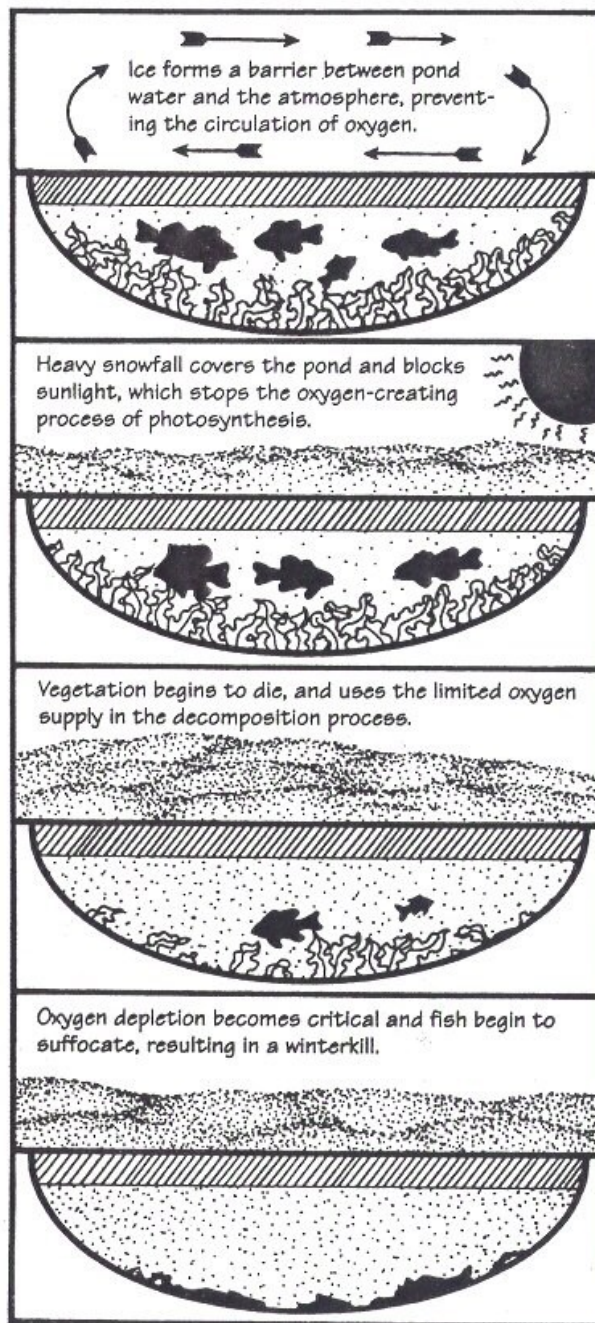
Falling leaves, dying plants, cooler temperatures and snow cover can all effect the health of your pond and the plants and animals living in it. Depending on the size, volume, or location of your pond, steps can be taken to prepare against winter's effects.

Even though it may seem counterintuitive, it's important to stop feeding fish when water temperatures dip below 50 degrees Fahrenheit. These cool temperatures signal a fish's metabolism to slow, reducing its food requirements. As a result, fish are likely to ignore food.

If large amounts of weeds are present in the pond during the fall, remove the dying algae and plants before they become part of the problem. Over winter, plants, algae, leaves and any other introduced vegetation, die and decompose on the bottom of the pond. In the process of decomposition, oxygen is consumed by bacteria as they break down the dead plant matter. Large amounts of dead or dying plant matter increases oxygen demand by increasing the population of decomposers. Higher populations of decomposers increase the likelihood of depleting the oxygen in lower layers of water. Oxygen is then unavailable to fish, which causes winter fish kills.

A similar issue also arises when the pond undergoes a natural occurrence called *turnover*. In the spring, as surface water temperature begins to warm, the cooler water layers underneath begin to rise, bringing oxygen depleted water to the surface and eventually distributing it throughout the pond. This phenomenon does not last long; its onset and duration are determined by environmental factors such as wind, warming rates, and plant growth, to name a few.

The most common way to prevent a fish kill in your pond this winter is to install an aerator. Running an aerator periodically or constantly throughout the winter prevents toxic build up of gases by introducing more oxygen to the pond's water. This decreases the likelihood of suffocation. Aeration units are commercially available and very easy to maintain.



*The winterkill process as illustrated in  
ODNR's Ohio Pond Management  
Handbook*



## LAKE SWCD WELCOMES NATALIE GERTZ-YOUNG

The Lake SWCD is pleased to welcome Natalie Gertz-Young as our new Education/Information Coordinator. After graduating from Chardon High School, Natalie earned a B.A. from The College of Wooster in Psychology, and a M.S. degree from Antioch University New England in Environmental Studies with Environmental Education specialization. Natalie is passionate about educating about conservation of natural resources. Whether doing community outreach, teaching Rain Barrel and Rain Garden workshops, teaching in-class lessons, measuring stream quality, or keeping the public informed through social media, she looks forward to serving Lake County.

# 2014 CONSERVATION TREE SEEDLING SALE

## **SINGLE-SPECIES PACKETS** The following species are available in quantities of 10, 25 or 50 of each species

**WHITE PINE:** When planted in a row or grouping, this conifer species will grow quickly, to form a privacy screen or windbreak, and will do well in many soil types.

**EASTERN RED CEDAR** - Back by popular demand, the red cedar can be trained to form a hedge or planted in a windbreak, and will provide food and shelter to wildlife.

**BLACK WILLOW:** This versatile tree/shrub is the perfect addition to that soggy spot in your yard or to the streambank in need of erosion control. If trained to 1-3 trunks it can grow to a large tree, or if trimmed short it can be trained to a hedge.

**SWAMP WHITE OAK:** Despite the name, this oak species will do well on dry and wet sites and is also tolerant of soil compaction. Yellow leaves in the fall.

**RIVER BIRCH:** This native tree has beautiful exfoliating bark making it a great choice for winter interest. Springtime seed production makes this small floodplain tree species popular with wildlife.

**SUGAR MAPLE:** This species will allow you to take up maple sugaring while waiting for your woodlot to mature, or you can just sit back and enjoy the spectacular fall colors.

## **MIXED-SPECIES PACKETS**

**NATIVE FRUIT TREES PACKET** These trees will provide you with tasty fruit for your family and wildlife. One order will include 3 of each species, or nine trees total.

**PAW PAW:** Known for its banana-like September fruits, large tropical-looking leaves and unique rich red flowers, this tree provides 3 seasons of delight.

**PERSIMMON:** This tree has an attractive form, beautiful chunky bark and offers sweet orange fruits after the first hard frost.

**AMERICAN PLUM:** Bearing large numbers of plums the size of large grapes, this native plum also dazzles in the spring with its whitish-pink blossoms.

**4 SEASONS OF INTEREST PACKET** These trees and shrubs will put on a show throughout the year. One order will include 3 of each species, or nine trees total.

**SASSAFRAS:** This sun-loving native tree is one of the most unique trees in Ohio. Arching branches hold four different leaf shapes. The leaves turn a brilliant red in autumn.

**RED-OSIER DOGWOOD:** This multi-stemmed shrub will be at home in a wet part of your yard. It will put on a show of white flowers in the spring, white fruits in the fall and its namesake red bark in the winter.

**REDBUD:** Most famous for its spring branches which are covered in pink-purple flowers. This well behaved shade-loving tree is a perfect landscape tree as it rarely grows larger than 20'.

**POND AND STREAM PACKET** These trees and shrubs will prevent erosion, stabilize streambanks and pond edges and enhance the beauty of your pond or stream. One order will include 3 of each species, or nine trees total.

**SYCAMORE:** The white bark of this tree species is a year-round indicator of the wettest landscape spots. This tree will grow quickly and can eventually reach 120'.

**BUTTONBUSH:** Great at controlling erosion on pond edges and streambanks, this shrub could grow in a bathtub. It has spherical white flowers and provides food and cover for wildlife.

**NINEBARK:** This shrub's attractive peeling bark, rich-green foliage and white clusters of flowers are sure to add interest to your pond or stream.

## **OTHER OFFERINGS**

**AMERICAN CHESTNUT** - These seedlings have shown good blight resistance. American Chestnuts are fast growing upright trees which mature in 15-20 years. Each packet contains 3 trees.

**NATIVE SEED BALLS** - These balls are a fun way to spread native seed. They contain clay, compost and native grass and wildflower seeds so all you have to do is throw and watch them grow! Each bag contains 1 dozen.

**BIRDHOUSES** - Bluebird, wren, bat and wood duck/screech owl. The houses come unfinished and ready to hang.

# 2014 CONSERVATION TREE SEEDLING SALE



## SINGLE-SPECIES

PACKETS	Plants per packet	Price	Number of packets	Total (price x quantity)
White pine	10	\$8		
	25	\$16		
	50	\$24		
Red cedar	10	\$8		
	25	\$16		
	50	\$24		
Black willow	10	\$16		
	25	\$32		
	50	\$48		
Sugar maple	10	\$16		
	25	\$32		
	50	\$48		
Swamp white oak	10	\$18		
	25	\$36		
	50	\$54		
River birch	10	\$18		
	25	\$36		
	50	\$54		
Single-species subtotal:				\$

## MULTI-SPECIES PACKETS

	Plants per packet	Price	Number of packets	Total (price x quantity)
Native fruit	9	\$20		
4 Seasons of Interest	9	\$20		
Pond and Stream	9	\$20		
Multi-species subtotal:				

## OTHER

	Plants per packet	Price	Number of packets	Total (price x quantity)
American Chestnut	3	\$2		
Native Seed Balls	12	\$5		
Bluebird House		\$12		
Wren house		\$12		
Bat House		\$16		
Duck/owl house		\$30		
Tree flags	20	\$1		
Other subtotal:				

Single-species subtotal (from left column)	
Multi-species subtotal	
Other subtotal	
<b>Packaging fee (required on all plant orders)</b>	<b>\$5</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

DAYTIME PHONE

E-MAIL (ONLY USED TO CONTACT YOU ABOUT YOUR ORDER)

### TO ORDER:

- Fill out the form. Keep this portion for reference.
- Orders will not be processed until payment is received.
- *Sorry, we cannot take credit cards.*
- **Place orders by February 21.** Any order placed after that date will be subject to availability.
- Send form, along with check or money order to:  
**Lake SWCD**  
**125 E. Erie St.**  
**Painesville OH 44077.**

### TO PICK UP YOUR ORDER:

- Trees will be distributed in the Natural Resources Building at the Lake County Fairgrounds, 1301 Mentor Ave.
- Pick-up times are Friday, April 11 from 9 AM to 6 PM and Saturday, April 12 from 9 AM to Noon.
- Lake SWCD is not responsible for orders that are not picked up by noon Saturday. If you cannot pick up your trees, please make arrangements for someone else to pick them up.
- Orders will be distributed in 5 gallon buckets, and should fit in most cars.

*We reserve the right to make substitutions if necessary. The plants are nursery inspected to be disease-free. Lake SWCD cannot guarantee their survival after distribution. Planting instructions will be provided when you pick up your trees.*



# GETTING YOUR HOME CONSTRUCTION SITE READY FOR THE WINTER

## JOHN NIEDZIALEK, RESOURCE PROTECTION SPECIALIST

Construction sites left bare through the winter can contribute to major water quality problems in our region's rivers and Lake Erie. For every acre under construction, over a dump truck of soil washes away into downstream lakes and rivers (1). Problems associated with sediment leaving construction sites include extra clean-up costs for local governments to pay to clean streets, sewers, and ditches; dredging costs to keep our river channels open; higher costs to homeowner associations to maintain their ponds and retention basins; and the destruction of fish and aquatic life downstream. This however, can be prevented by taking some simple steps especially prior to winter. The Lake County Erosion & Sediment Control Rules were adopted over ten years ago to encourage homebuilders and excavators to control erosion on construction sites.

It is always best to get a good grass cover established in the fall, but many times, construction and earthmoving practices are ongoing into winter which forces landowners and contractors to use different erosion control practices. Ground left bare through the winter is not acceptable.

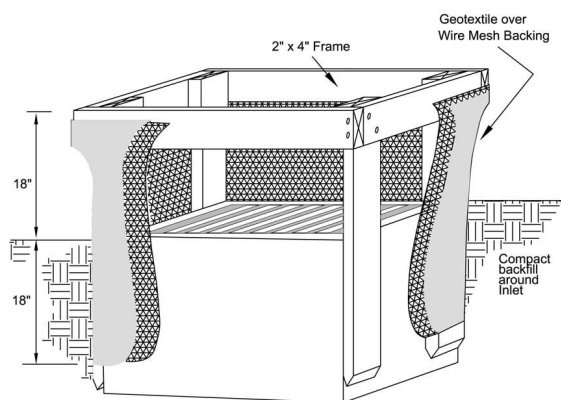
A simple method is temporary seeding with mulch cover. On areas of your construction site that will be left bare over the winter, you can broadcast and rake in a mixture of perennial rye with tall fescue and annual ryegrass. A 1 pound per 1000 square feet rate should be used for each grass seed. It is important to then apply straw as a mulch cover over the seeded area at a rate of 2-3 bales per 1000 square feet. This method can be used through October. After that, you will need to apply a straw mulch cover to protect the soil. By using this method, the construction site will be protected through the winter and the lot can then be prepared for a permanent seeding in the spring when final grade has been achieved.

It is also important to install and maintain other erosion and sediment control practices that prevent sediment from leaving the site such as silt fence and inlet protection. We have all seen the black silt fence used along construction sites. It is important that this fence be staked in properly and trenched into the ground so it can prevent any sediment from leaving the construction site.



*On left: Silt fences that are not properly staked and trenched can lead to sediment run off. Sediment is the number 1 source of non-point source water pollution in Ohio.*

*On right: Properly installed silt fences keep sediment within construction lot.*



*Inlet protection using silt fence*

Inlet protection structures, such as the one shown to the left, are simple to install around any storm sewer inlet you may have on your lot. The most common mistake when using silt fence or inlet protection is to not properly trench the black silt fence into the ground. This has to be done to keep sediment from flowing under the fence.

The practices mentioned above are just a few of the erosion and sediment control practices available to homeowners and contractors. A full list of approved practices can be found at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/tabid/9186/default.aspx>. This source is known as the *Ohio Department of Natural Resources Rainwater and Land Development Manual* and is an excellent source of practical information. The staff at the Lake County Soil & Water Conservation District is also available to meet with you on site to discuss the best approach to control erosion on your site.

1. Source Quoted: [http://www.bentonvillar.com/docs/bldg/erosion\\_control\\_home\\_builders.pdf](http://www.bentonvillar.com/docs/bldg/erosion_control_home_builders.pdf)



Recycled Paper

## FROM THE FARMER, TO YOUR TABLE

Support your local farmers by cooking a meal from autumn's bounty. This easy meal is the perfect end to a crisp fall day. Try it with blue hubbard, pink banana, acorn or butternut squash.

### SQUASH SOUP WITH APPLE GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICHES

SERVES 4

- 1 bunch of sage
- 1 tablespoon of butter, plus more for the sandwiches
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 onion diced
- 6 cups of peeled, cubed winter squash of your choice
- 3 cups water, chicken or vegetable stock
- 1/2 cup heavy cream or sour cream (optional)
- 2-3 apples sliced 1/4 inch
- 1/4 inch slices of Cheddar, blue, or brie cheese
- 8 slices of bread

### FOR THE SOUP

In a medium –sized pot melt butter over medium-low heat. Add 6-10 sage leaves and fry until crispy. Remove sage leaves and set aside. Increase heat to medium and add olive oil and onion. Sauté until translucent. Add cubed squash and 3 cups of water or stock and cover. Cook until squash is tender, adding more water if it dries out. Add 2 sage leaves, heavy cream or sour cream (if using) and puree until smooth.

Serve soup topped with fried sage leaves and a dollop of sour cream.

### FOR THE SANDWICHES

Lay slices of bread on a counter or cutting board. Place half the cheese on one slice. Layer the apples on top. Add the remaining cheese and top with the other slice of bread.

Heat a skillet over medium heat. Add butter. When melted, place sandwich in pan, and cook until golden on one side, 2 to 3 minutes. Use a spatula to flip the sandwich, cook until golden on the other side, 2 to 3 minutes, then transfer to a cutting board. Let cool for 1 minute and serve.

## LAKE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

125 E. Erie St., Painesville, OH 44077

Phone: 440-350-2730

Fax: 440-350-2601

East End: 428-4348 ext. 2730

West End: 918-2730

1-800-899-LAKE ext 2730

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 am-4:00 pm

E-MAIL: [SOIL@LAKECOUNTYOHIO.GOV](mailto:SOIL@LAKECOUNTYOHIO.GOV)

WEB SITE: [WWW.LAKECOUNTYOHIO.GOV/SOIL](http://WWW.LAKECOUNTYOHIO.GOV/SOIL)

DAN DONALDSON,	
District Administrator	350-2030
NICK AGINS,	
Resource Protection Technician	350-2032
NATALIE GERTZ-YOUNG,	
Education/Information Coordinator	350-2033
JOHN NIEDZIALEK,	
Resource Protection Specialist	350-5860
MAURINE ORNDORFF,	
Watershed Coordinator	350-5863
NRCS FIELD OFFICE, Orwell	437-5888

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DICK BAKER (2013), NORTH PERRY, CHAIR  
SKIP DUGAN (2014), PERRY, VICE CHAIR  
JEFF HYRNE (2015), MADISON TWP., FISCAL AGENT  
LARRY KLCO (2014), NORTH PERRY, TREASURER  
BRAD SHAWHAN (2015), MENTOR, SECRETARY

### MEMBER OF:

Lake County Farm Bureau  
Nursery Growers of Lake County Ohio  
National Association of Conservation Districts  
Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER:** All Lake SWCD and USDA programs and services are available without regard to race, age, gender, national origin, political beliefs, color, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

The public is invited to attend Lake SWCD's monthly Board meetings, held the third Tuesday of the month at 4:00 pm at 125 East Erie St., Painesville. Meeting announcements appear under the public agenda in the News-Herald and on the Lake SWCD website. Please call in advance to let us know you will be attending.